

DATA SHEET

Form 10-306
(Oct. 1972)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Tennessee
COUNTY: Sevier
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE JAN 11 1975

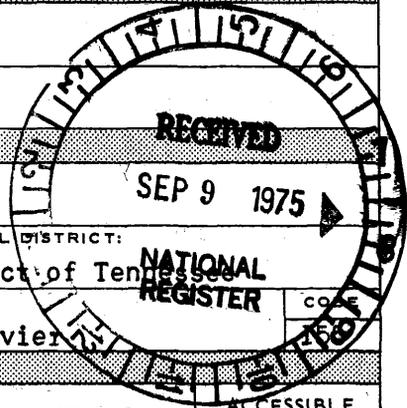
1. NAME

COMMON:
Little Greenbrier School
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Little Greenbrier, Church

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Two miles south of Wear's Valley
CITY OR TOWN:
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
STATE:
Tennessee
CODE:
47

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
1st district of Tennessee
COUNTY:
Sevier



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____ _____

4. AGENCY

National Park Service, Department of Interior		
REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable) Southeast Regional Office	STREET AND NUMBER: 3401 Whipple Ave.	
CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta	STATE: Georgia	CODE: 13

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Sevier County Courthouse		
STREET AND NUMBER:		
CITY OR TOWN: Sevierville,	STATE: Tennessee	CODE: 47

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1936	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> County
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: D. C.	CODE: 001	

Tennessee	STATE:
Sevier	COUNTY:
111	ENTRY NUMBER:
	DATE:

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

 Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

 Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

 Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Little Greenbrier School and Church

Building #129

Recommended level of Treatment: Preservation

Cost Estimate: N/A

This is a rectangular, one story building with attic and gable roof.

Foundation: Dry stone piers

Sills: Locust 10"x10"

Floor: Present floor 5½"x1" sawn oak boards. Original floor was wide pine boards.

Walls: Yellow poplar, all logs split and hewn on two sides. Some logs are hewn on four sides to make width of chink uniform. Doors and windows were cut out after walls were laid up.

Chinks: Filled with short boards and pieces of log hewn to fit and driven tight, then dressed flush with inside of walls.

Ceiling: Sawn chestnut boards, hand dressed one side, 6"x1" and 8"x1".

Shingles: Rived oak, random-width.

Gable ends: Sawn poplar weather boarding.

Windows: There are a total of four windows. There are two each, on the east and west sides of the building. All sash and glass are missing. There was a window behind the teacher's desk on the south end of the building. This opening has been closed with logs sawn to fit.

All windows, except the one on the south, were enlarged and fitted with sash and glass in 1910.

Doors: There is one doorway in the structure. It is located in the north end of the building. It is a rectangular opening. The door is made of four white pine boards, braced top, center, and bottom with hewn, dressed hardwood 6"x1" boards. The door is swung by iron butt hinges, and is latched by a staple and hasp.

Chimney: Originally, there was a central brick chimney, and heat was supplied by first a cook stove, and later by a pot-bellied wood heater. An iron pipe led from the stove to the chimney.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Little Greenbrier School and Church
Order of Significance: **3rd**

Construction was begun on Little Greenbrier School and Church in January 1882. The first classes were held in the fall of that same year, and continuously held, except for 1900, until 1936.

Along with school, church services were also held in the building by the Primitive Baptists.

The land on which the school stood was donated by Gilbert Abbott, and the poplar logs for the walls were donated by another member of the community, Ephraim Ogle. The logs were chosen so they could be split, and two logs thus made. They were hauled by oxen to the building site. Shingles for the roof were rived from oak, and when materials had been assembled, a date for a house raising was set. The date of the raising is unknown, but four of the participants were John N. Walker, Ephraim Ogle, John Abbott, who was also the local preacher, and his brother Gilbert Abbott.

The first classes started in the fall of 1882. The teacher was Richard Perryman, a Primitive Baptist preacher. Since neither the county or the state of Tennessee provided any assistance to the school, the teacher's salary had to be paid by the community. Since money was almost non-existent in the mountains of Tennessee in the late 1800's, he was paid by whatever commodity was at hand, or by boarding with families having children in school. It was a hard life, but he made a living which was about all anyone managed in the area.

All told, 39 teachers kept school in Little Greenbrier, for a total of 52 school years. The qualifications of the teachers often left much to be desired, but generally they could provide the rudiments of reading, arithmetic, spelling, and important to the Greenbrier community, religion.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Historic American Buildings Survey, 1936, Survey # Tenn. 116.

Interview with Mr. Jim Shelton, Wears Valley, Tennessee,
August 30, 1950.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		35° 41' 01"	83° 38' 11"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				17
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Less than one**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Paul R. Gordon, Historian** DATE: **July 31, 1973**

BUSINESS ADDRESS: **Great Smoky Mountains National Park**

STREET AND NUMBER: _____ PHONE: _____

CITY OR TOWN: **Gatlinburg** STATE: **Tennessee** CODE: **47**

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation:

- Yes
- No
- None

Lauren [Signature]
State Liaison Officer Signature

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance is National State

[Signature] SEP 3 1975
Federal Representative Signature Date

Deputy Assistant Secretary

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Acting
[Signature]
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date **1/10/76**

ATTEST:
[Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date **1-9-76**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

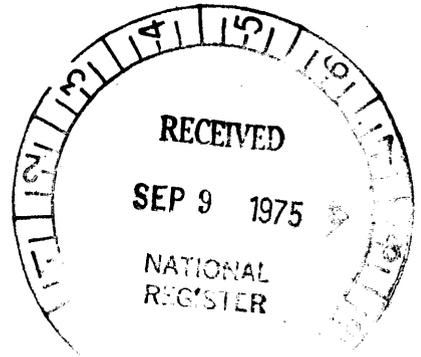
STATE Tennessee	
COUNTY Sevier	
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(Number all entries)

Item #7 cont'd (1)

Interior Appearance: The interior walls are hewn, unpainted log. Vandals have defaced the interior, as well as the exterior. On the south wall, nine dressed planks were nailed to the wall and painted flat black to form a blackboard. Visitors have rubbed this with their hands until it is slick and greasy.

There are 29 hand-made school desks in the building. They show the hard use to which they were subjected by generations of bored children. They are heavily carved with initials, dates, and names. Recent visitors have also added their graffiti.



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Item #8 cont'd (1)

No school was held in the building in 1900. Due to an error in the deed, the land on which the school stood was found to be the property of someone referred to only as "a negro" and a year went by with no school before the matter could be settled. Finally Sevier County came to the community's aid and purchased the land, and school was resumed in 1901.

The children who attended the school came not only from the Greenbrier section, but also from Meigs Mountain, nine miles away. They either walked or rode horseback over muddy, narrow trails and roads to reach the school, and then retraced the journey in the evenings. When they reached home they might be required to assist with the many chores around the mountain farm before they could rest or study.

Since the work to be done demanded all the hands a family could muster, often the children were kept out of school to help. This, coupled with the isolation of the families tended to shorten the school terms. Some years classes lasted only six weeks

The last school held in the building was in 1935. It was taught by Herman Matthews, who like Richard Perryman, the first teacher, was a Primitive Baptist preacher.

With the establishment of Great Smoky Mountains National Park in 1935, the people of Greenbrier left the area. The building was vandalized, and fell into disrepair.

However, care has been taken in recent years to stabilize the building and make needed repairs, taking care to preserve the architectural integrity of the building, and to duplicate the craftsmanship.

